

# ASX / MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT



31 December 2021

## Strategic Metallurgy Growth to Support Lepidico

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- **Strategic Metallurgy has raised A\$1.29 million to expand its business operations and retire debt from a recent building purchase**
- **Part of Lepidico’s pilot plant operations will shortly move into this recently acquired facility, which is proximal to the existing laboratory-office complex**
- **The enlarged facilities will ultimately allow L-Max<sup>®</sup> and LOH-Max<sup>®</sup> pilot operations to be conducted in parallel to support envisaged assessment by licensees**
- **Strategic Metallurgy now holds 311.3 million Lepidico shares, which it has advised is, “a strategic long-term investment in Lepidico that it plans to retain for capital growth and in the fullness of time income.”**

**Lepidico Ltd (ASX:LPD) (“Lepidico” or “Company”)** has been advised by Strategic Metallurgy (“SM”) that SM has recently secured A\$1.29 million (gross) through the on-market sale of 35 million Lepidico shares in order to fund its growth plans. Strategic Metallurgy, remains Lepidico’s largest shareholder and now holds 311.3 million shares (5.0% of issued capital), in what it has advised is, “a strategic long-term investment in Lepidico that it plans to retain for capital growth and in the fullness of time income.”

Mark Urbani, Director at Strategic Metallurgy said, “Cash proceeds will immediately be used to reduce debt following the acquisition of a building adjacent to the SM Perth office and laboratory, which is already being used for certain pilot plant operations. The additional capital will also allow SM to further expand its operations through business improvements and further investments.”

Lepidico’s Managing Director, Joe Walsh said, “The SM business expansion plan will support ongoing work for Lepidico and ultimately allow many testwork operations to be conducted concurrently. Close collaboration will continue for the advancement of Lepidico’s proprietary process technologies, which include L-Max<sup>®</sup> and LOH-Max<sup>®</sup>. This multi-faceted work involves: ongoing pilot plant operations; design work for the Phase 1 development and Phase 2 studies; technical evaluation under third-party technology licenses; and assessment of new technologies to expand Lepidico’s industry leading intellectual property base for maximising value from processing lithium mica and phosphate minerals. Work is also ongoing to commercialise LOH-Max<sup>®</sup> for the chemical conversion of spodumene, which has extensive industry application given the unprecedented demand growth predicted for battery materials and lithium in particular.”

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## About Strategic Metallurgy

Strategic Metallurgy: committed in developing tailor-made technological solutions for mining projects.

Strategic Metallurgy has a proven history of delivering quality metallurgical outcomes using various metallurgical tools and processes across a range of commodities, This includes the development of the L-Max<sup>®</sup> and LOH-Max<sup>®</sup> now owned by Lepidico.

Strategic Metallurgy Pty Ltd, established in 2010, is a boutique metallurgical consultancy whose business model is to work with mining companies to develop metallurgical strategies that integrate with their overall business plan. Strategic Metallurgy has extensive hands-on experience in the battery metals space, as evidenced by its developments for Lepidico, but also has expertise in nickel, copper and cobalt which are critical for the energy transition that is unfolding.

### Further Information

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### About Lepidico Ltd

Lepidico is an innovative developer of sustainable lithium hydroxide and other critical minerals, and the global leader in lithium mica processing.

With a tech-focused, ESG-led business model that is pilot-proven, our first lithium production – from far less contested mineral sources – are due in 2023. The Phase 1 Project will provide a meaningful contribution to decarbonisation the world's alkali metals supply chains. We are also working to grow our business with our second project, Phase 2. Other businesses have already begun to licence our patent protected L-Max<sup>®</sup> and LOH-Max<sup>®</sup> technologies providing an avenue for royalty revenues.

For more information, [please visit our website](#).

### Forward-looking Statements

All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this release including, without limitation, statements regarding future plans and objectives of Lepidico, are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as "anticipate", "believe", "could", "estimate", "expect", "future", "intend", "may", "opportunity", "plan", "potential", "project", "seek", "will" and other similar words that involve risks and uncertainties. These statements are based on an assessment of present economic and operating conditions, and on a number of assumptions regarding future events and actions that are expected to take place. Such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, assumptions and other important factors, many of which are beyond the control of the Company, its directors and management of Lepidico that could cause Lepidico's actual results to differ materially from the results expressed or anticipated in these statements.

The Company cannot and does not give any assurance that the results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements contained in this release will actually occur and investors are cautioned not to place any reliance on these forward-looking statements. Lepidico does not undertake to update or revise forward-looking statements, or to publish prospective financial information in the future, regardless of whether new information, future events or any other factors affect the information contained in this release, except where required by applicable law and stock exchange listing requirements.